



DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

ISSUED BY GOVERNMENT INFORMATION SERVICES
BEACONSFIELD HOUSE, HONG KONG. TEL: 5-233191

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 17, 1980

CONTENTS

PAGE NO.

| | |
|------------------------------------------------------------|---|
| YUEN LONG ANTI-NARCOTICS CAMPAIGN OPENS ON SUNDAY | 1 |
| CAMPAIGN AGAINST GERMAN MEASLES | 2 |
| NEW TAXI FARES FROM SUNDAY | 3 |
| PRELIMINARY CONTEST FOR COMMONWEALTH ESSAY COMPETITION ... | 3 |
| HIGHER FARES FOR AP LEI CHAU FERRY SERVICE | 4 |
| CHEUNG CHAU PLAYGROUND IMPROVEMENTS | 5 |

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 17, 1980

- 1 -

YUEN LONG ANTI-NARCOTICS CAMPAIGN OPENS ON SUNDAY

A ONE-MONTH ANTI-NARCOTICS CAMPAIGN WILL BE LAUNCHED IN YUEN LONG ON SUNDAY (OCTOBER 19).

NEARLY 30 ACTIVITIES WILL BE HELD DURING THE CAMPAIGN PERIOD, INCLUDING AN ATHLETICS DEMONSTRATION, A CONCERT, EXHIBITIONS, CANTONESE OPERAS, VARIETY SHOWS, FILM SHOWS, A FUN FAIR FOR MUTUAL AID COMMITTEE MEMBERS, AND TALKS AND SEMINARS IN SCHOOLS.

BANNERS AND POSTERS WITH ANTI-NARCOTICS MESSAGES WILL BE DISPLAYED THROUGHOUT THE DISTRICT.

THIS IS THE FIRST TIME AN ANTI-DRUG CAMPAIGN HAS BEEN HELD IN YUEN LONG, A SPOKESMAN FOR THE CAMPAIGN COMMITTEE SAID.

THE YUEN LONG DISTRICT ANTI-NARCOTICS CAMPAIGN COMMITTEE, COMPRISING LOCAL COMMUNITY LEADERS AND GOVERNMENT DEPARTMENT REPRESENTATIVES, WAS FORMED THREE MONTHS AGO TO CO-ORDINATE THE SERIES OF CAMPAIGN ACTIVITIES. ITS CHAIRMAN IS MR WONG KAM-YIP.

THE ACTION COMMITTEE AGAINST NARCOTICS (ACAN) HAS PROVIDED \$100 000 TOWARDS CAMPAIGN EXPENSES. A FURTHER \$20 000 IS EXPECTED TO BE DONATED BY LOCAL PEOPLE.

SECRETARY FOR THE NEW TERRITORIES, MR DAVID AKERS-JONES, WILL OFFICIATE AT THE OPENING CEREMONY AT YUEN LONG STADIUM ON SUNDAY. THE COMMISSIONER FOR NARCOTICS, MR PETER LEE, AND THE CHAIRMAN OF ACAN'S PREVENTIVE EDUCATION AND PUBLICITY SUB-COMMITTEE, MR KARL STUMPF, WILL ALSO BE PRESENT.

A VARIETY SHOW WILL BE HELD IMMEDIATELY AFTER THE CEREMONY. INCLUDED IN THE ONE-AND-A-HALF-HOUR PROGRAMME WILL BE A FREE-FALL PARACHUTE DISPLAY BY THE JOINT SERVICES PARACHUTE CLUB, A DRAGON DANCE BY MA TIN TSUEN VILLAGERS, A MASS DANCE PERFORMANCE BY LING OI PRIMARY SCHOOL STUDENTS, SONGS BY YUEN LONG CHILDREN'S CHOIR, A PERFORMANCE BY THE BOY SCOUTS BAND AND A TELE-MATCH BETWEEN 12 LOCAL ORGANISATIONS AND GOVERNMENT DEPARTMENTS.

A CAPACITY CROWD OF 5 000 LOCAL RESIDENTS IS EXPECTED TO ATTEND.

/NOTE TO

NOTE TO EDITORS:

YOU ARE CORDIALLY INVITED TO SEND REPRESENTATIVES TO COVER THE YUEN LONG DISTRICT ANTI-NARCOTICS CAMPAIGN OPENING CEREMONY TO BE HELD ON SUNDAY (OCTOBER 19) AT 11 AM AT YUEN LONG STADIUM.

A GOVERNMENT VEHICLE WILL LEAVE KOWLOON PUBLIC PIER AT 9.15 AM TO TAKE THE PRESS TO THE STADIUM. MR DONALD STRANGE OF THE NEW TERRITORIES ADMINISTRATION PRESS UNIT WILL BE PRESENT TO HELP MEDIA REPRESENTATIVES.

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CAMPAIGN AGAINST GERMAN MEASLES

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GIRLS BETWEEN 11 AND 14 ARE ADVISED TO TAKE EARLY PREVENTIVE MEASURES AGAINST GERMAN MEASLES BY COMING FORWARD FOR VACCINATION.

RUBELLA, COMMONLY CALLED GERMAN MEASLES, IS A VIRUS INFECTION. IF A WOMAN IN HER EARLY PREGNANCY IS AFFECTED BY THIS DISEASE, SHE MAY GIVE BIRTH TO BABIES WITH CONGENITAL ABNORMALITIES, SUCH AS DEAFNESS, BLINDNESS, HEART AND BRAIN DEFECTS.

HOWEVER, INOCULATION AT THE EARLY AGE CAN PRODUCE MAXIMUM PREVENTIVE EFFECT. +BY THE TIME THE GIRLS REACH THE REPRODUCTIVE AGE, THEY WILL HAVE DEVELOPED IMMUNITY AGAINST THE DISEASE,+ A SPOKESMAN FOR THE MEDICAL AND HEALTH DEPARTMENT SAID.

TO PREVENT OUTBREAKS OF RUBELLA, THE DEPARTMENT IS LAUNCHING AN ANTI-RUBELLA VACCINATION PROGRAMME AMONG SCHOOLS.

MOBILE INOCULATION TEAMS FROM THE DEPARTMENT HAVE BEEN VISITING SCHOOLS SINCE MID-OCTOBER TO INOCULATE GIRLS IN THIS AGE GROUP.

+A SINGLE DOSE INJECTION WILL SAFEGUARD GIRLS FROM THIS RISK,+ THE SPOKESMAN SAID.

APART FROM DISTRIBUTING AN INFORMATIVE LEAFLET, THE DEPARTMENT HAS ARRANGED SEMINARS FOR SCHOOL TEACHERS TO BRIEF THEM ON THE IMPORTANCE OF VACCINATION AND POSSIBLE EFFECTS OF THIS DISEASE DURING PREGNANCY.

AN ANTI-RUBELLA CAMPAIGN IS ORGANISED EVERY YEAR, AND OVER 140 000 GIRLS HAVE BEEN INOCULATED IN THE PAST TWO YEARS.

THE SPOKESMAN SAID THAT WOMEN OF CHILD-BEARING AGE, WHO ARE IN CONSTANT CONTACT WITH CHILDREN BECAUSE OF THEIR OCCUPATION, SUCH AS TEACHING OR NURSING, SHOULD ALSO BE VACCINATED.

THEY CAN OBTAIN THIS VACCINE, FREE OF CHARGE, AT ANY OF THE 37 GOVERNMENT MATERNAL AND CHILD HEALTH CENTRES.

AS SOME ADULTS ARE NATURALLY IMMUNISED AGAINST THE INFECTION, A BLOOD TEST BEFORE INOCULATION IS TAKEN TO FIND OUT WHETHER THE WOMAN CONCERNED IS ALREADY IMMUNISED.

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FRIDAY, OCTOBER 17, 1980

- 3 -

NEW TAXI FARES FROM SUNDAY
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THE TRANSPORT DEPARTMENT TODAY REMINDED THE PUBLIC THAT THE NEW SCALE OF TAXI FARES WILL COME INTO EFFECT ON SUNDAY (OCTOBER 19).

IN THE URBAN AREA, THE FLAGFALL FARE WILL BE \$4 FOR THE FIRST TWO KILOMETRES, COMPARED WITH THE EXISTING \$2.50 FOR THE FIRST MILE OR 1.6 KILOMETRES.

THE SUBSEQUENT CHARGE WILL BE 50 CENTS FOR ONE-QUARTER OF A KILOMETRE, COMPARED WITH THE EXISTING RATE OF 50 CENTS FOR ONE-FIFTH OF A MILE OR ONE-THIRD OF A KILOMETRE.

BASED ON THE SAME DISTANCES, THE NEW CHARGES FOR NEW TERRITORIES TAXIS WILL BE A FLAGFALL FARE OF \$2.40 AND A SUBSEQUENT RATE OF 30 CENTS, COMPARED WITH THE EXISTING RATES OF \$1.50 AND 30 CENTS RESPECTIVELY.

CHARGES FOR WAITING TIME WILL BE 50 CENTS FOR URBAN TAXIS AND 30 CENTS FOR NT TAXIS FOR EVERY TWO MINUTES INSTEAD OF 2-1/2 MINUTES.

ADDITIONAL FARES, SUCH AS CHARGES FOR TUNNEL TOLLS, BAGGAGES AND ANIMALS OR BIRDS WILL REMAIN UNCHANGED.

IMPLEMENTATION OF THE NEW FARE SCALE WILL INVOLVE THE RECALIBRATION OR REPLACEMENT OF MORE THAN 9 000 TAXI METRES, AND IS EXPECTED TO TAKE ABOUT SIX MONTHS TO COMPLETE.

DURING THE INTERIM PERIOD, CONVERSION TABLES SHOWING THE APPROPRIATE FARE TO BE PAID WHEN A PARTICULAR SUM IS REGISTERED ON EXISTING METRES WILL BE DISPLAYED IN ALL TAXIS.

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PRELIMINARY CONTEST FOR COMMONWEALTH ESSAY COMPETITION
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ALL STUDENTS AGED 19 AND BELOW ARE INVITED TO ENTER THE LOCAL ROUND FOR THE ROYAL COMMONWEALTH SOCIETY ESSAY COMPETITION 1980/81.

PRIZE-WINNING AND OUTSTANDING ESSAYS IN THIS PRELIMINARY ROUND WILL BE SENT TO LONDON FOR FINAL JUDGING.

THE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT IS ADMINISTERING THE COMPETITION IN HONG KONG ON BEHALF OF SIR DOUGLAS CLAGUE, THE CORRESPONDING SECRETARY OF THE SOCIETY IN HONG KONG.

THE LOCAL ROUND IS SPONSORED BY SIR DOUGLAS AND THE HONG KONG GENERAL CHAMBER OF COMMERCE, AND BOOK PRIZES WILL BE AWARDED TO WINNERS.

+THE ESSAY COMPETITION IS HELD ANNUALLY BY THE ROYAL COMMONWEALTH SOCIETY TO ENCOURAGE COMMONWEALTH STUDIES IN SCHOOLS,+ AN EDUCATION DEPARTMENT SPOKESMAN SAID.

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FRIDAY, OCTOBER 17, 1980

- 4 -

IT IS DIVIDED INTO THREE CLASSES ACCORDING TO AGE GROUP -- CLASS A FOR STUDENTS BETWEEN 16 AND 19- CLASS B FOR THOSE AGED 14 AND BELOW 16- AND CLASS C FOR THOSE UNDER 14.

+THE SUCCESS ACHIEVED BY HONG KONG STUDENTS IN THIS COMPETITION IN PAST YEARS REFLECTS THE HIGH ACADEMIC ABILITY OF LOCAL STUDENTS IN COMPETITION WITH OTHER YOUNG PEOPLE IN ALL PARTS OF THE COMMONWEALTH.

+SUCH ACHIEVEMENTS SHOULD SERVE TO ENCOURAGE THEM TO MAINTAIN THIS EXCELLENT RECORD,+ THE SPOKESMAN SAID.

IN LAST YEAR'S COMPETITION, THREE HONG KONG STUDENTS WON THE +HIGHLY COMMENDED+ AWARD AND THREE OTHERS THE +COMMENDED+ AWARD.

AWARDS TO WINNERS OF THE FINAL COMPETITION WILL INCLUDE INTERNATIONAL AIR TRAVEL AND CASH AND BOOK PRIZES. CERTIFICATES ARE AWARDED IN ALL CLASSES FOR HIGHLY COMMENDED AND COMMENDED ESSAYS.

ESSAYS ENTERED FOR THE LOCAL ROUND MUST BE SENT THROUGH HEADS OF SCHOOLS TO THE INFORMATION AND PUBLIC RELATIONS SECTION, EDUCATION DEPARTMENT, LEE GARDENS, HYSAN AVENUE, HONG KONG BY JANUARY 9, 1981.

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HIGHER FARES FOR AP LEI CHAU FERRY SERVICE

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THE FARES FOR THE ABERDEEN/AP LEI CHAU MINOR FERRY SERVICE WILL BE INCREASED FROM SUNDAY (OCTOBER 19).

THE ADULT FARE WILL BE INCREASED FROM 20 CENTS TO 40 CENTS. CHILDREN UNDER 12 YEARS WILL BE CHARGED HALF FARES.

MONTHLY TICKETS FOR STUDENTS AND FACTORY GIRLS WILL BE DOUBLED FROM \$6 AND \$12 TO \$12 AND \$24.

GENERAL CARGO CHARGES REMAIN AT 50 CENTS A PIECE (FOUR CUBIC FEET).

A SPOKESMAN FOR THE TRANSPORT DEPARTMENT EXPLAINED THAT THE FARE REVISION WAS APPROVED BECAUSE OF HIGH OPERATING COSTS AND REDUCTION IN PASSENGER PATRONAGE AFTER THE OPENING OF THE AP LEI CHAU BRIDGE.

THERE IS A LIKELY NEED FOR CAPITAL INVESTMENT TO REPROVISION THE EXISTING PIER STRUCTURE, WHICH IS PROVIDED BY THE COMPANY, TO ANOTHER LOCATION IN ABERDEEN RECLAMATION LATER THIS YEAR, HE ADDED.

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FRIDAY, OCTOBER 17, 1980

- 5 -

CHEUNG CHAU PLAYGROUND IMPROVEMENTS

THE RECREATION GROUND ON CHEUNG CHAU ISLAND WILL HAVE BETTER FACILITIES FOR GAMES AND SPORTS.

UNDER AN EXTENSION PROJECT, THERE WILL BE NEW RUNNING TRACKS, A BASKETBALL COURT, A CHILDREN'S PLAYGROUND AND CHANGING ROOMS.

TENDERS FOR THE WORK ARE BEING INVITED BY THE ARCHITECTURAL OFFICE OF THE PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT.

WORK WILL START IN DECEMBER AND TAKE ABOUT 13 MONTHS.

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DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN – SUPPLEMENT

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SPEECH BY H.E. THE GOVERNOR, SIR MURRAY MACLEHOSE AT THE CENTENARY
DINNER OF THE HONG KONG AND SHANGHAI BANK

IN NEW YORK ON THURSDAY, OCTOBER 16, 1980

This dinner is to celebrate 100 years of banking activity in New York for the Hong Kong and Shanghai Bank. For a centenarian it shows remarkable virility and obviously is bigger and stronger and with a future much more assured than when it came here as a callow youth 100 years ago. It has now even ventured into marriage with an American party of impeccable lineage.

I am sure we all wish this new and powerful union well. It is historically pleasing that this new financial link between the east coast of America and the Pearl River port of Hong Kong should be formed. It is 131 years since the American clipper "Sea Witch" made her record passage of 74 days between Hong Kong and New York, and at the Peabody Museum and the maritime historical site at Salem there is recorded the vigour of American participation in the

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commercial and social life of the China coast of the early and mid-19th century. Since those colourful, if somewhat disreputable days, American power and influence has played a prominent and often dominant and, in my view, usually beneficial role in the area. Indeed of all events in East Asia of the last decade I would point to the normalisation of relations between the United States and the People's Republic of China as the most outstanding act of statesmanship and the one which has contributed most to political stability and economic confidence in the area and indeed far outside it.

So we in Hong Kong admire the United States and know the contribution it has made to the East Asian region in which we live. 19 per cent of our trade is with the United States. Many of our young managers, bankers, engineers and teachers have American degrees. Americans play a considerable part in the economic and cultural life of our city. Moreover in this last 18 months America has earned our undying gratitude by the vigour with which she moved to lead in the resettlement of boat refugees from Vietnam, more than 70 000 of whom Hong Kong has given temporary asylum and of which we still have more than any other community in the region. The part played by the American Government and by American hosts all over the world in this most recent tragic episode of a tragic country is one which Americans regard with pride, and I assure you we in Hong Kong with admiration and gratitude.

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So we in Hong Kong have good reason to admire American, but what of Hong Kong itself?

Well Hong Kong is a unique phenomenon of the second half of this century and we continue to have both our successes and our problems. When I last spoke to a gathering of bankers in New York it was in the recession period of 1975 and I said then that since Hong Kong had been willing to tighten its belt in bad times, its economy was well poised to forge ahead as soon as the slightest puff of new export demand filled its sails. So it has turned out, and this will be the fourth successive year of double digit growth in real terms. These have been years of rapid investment in plant and commercial and domestic building, and extraordinary growth in the number of banks and finance houses and indeed in the tertiary sector generally. While Hong Kong's economy continues to be industry-based and export-led, the tertiary sector is playing an increasingly important role and in particular Hong Kong's role as a world banking centre has become established. Of the 115 licensed banks, 19 are American and there are a further 27 American banks which have offices or permanently based representatives in the territory. This activity and growth in the private sector has been matched by public sector progress in housing, hospitals, schools, social welfare and all the infrastructure that enables growth to be accompanied by stability and sustain its continued upward movement. I might add that

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there have also been successes in the fields of which we do not so often talk. Our successes over these years against the traditional evils of corruption, drugs and crime have been extremely significant, and even spectacular. To my mind the most exciting aspect of progress in these difficult fields has been not only due to the efficiency of the law enforcement agencies concerned, but the cooperation of the population and the way it has organised itself to help. In the last year, and you may find this hard to believe, 12 per cent of total arrests were made by private citizens.

We have also had our problems. Most of our major markets are bedevilled by inflation and unemployment that have not yet shaken free from the dramatic change in oil prices, with inevitable pressure for control of imports. No doubt there is a time and place for protection in an adjusting economy, but all I would say on this subject which means so much to us in Hong Kong tonight, is that I have much sympathy with developed countries who find their industries undercut by imports from those developing countries which by one device or another protect their own markets from the products of the countries they sell to. There is rough justice about retaliation. But by the same token I resent intensely when this understandably political reflex for protection is visited on Hong Kong, where all are free to sell, and is the only market in the Far East which is entirely free without discrimination or control.

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For the rest our major problem has been immigration into an already much too crowded territory. Refugees from Vietnam and immigrants from China. There was a period last summer, before the Geneva Conference, when 1 000 a day were arriving by boat from Vietnam and another 1 000 from China by land, boat or swimming. The Geneva Conference in which the United States played such a decisive part stopped the Vietnamese flow. But immigration from China continues and the numbers amounted to just under 100 000 in 1978, nearly 180 000 last year, and it looks like being not much less this year. Additions at this level to a population of only 5 million with a low and well controlled natural growth rate, could insidiously erode standards of life that have been worked for and earned over the last two decades. We are taking strong measures to intercept the stream and so are the Chinese to whom it is just as damaging as to us. But stopping a population movement once it has started is no easy matter and to do so with humanity and compassion, as well as efficiency, is a very major problem. There have been similar movements into Hong Kong in the past and all have been brought under control by the action

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of the Chinese and Hong Kong authorities and I have no doubt that this movement too will be controlled by joint action. Meanwhile it remains a point of very major concern.

As an economic community we are entirely dependent on external forces, and in particular on the state of our markets abroad. Shorter order books have brought increasing unemployment, though it is still low by international standards. But in the short term we see no prospect of recession unless induced by some external dramatic event, and in the medium term we believe our prospects to be extremely good. Indeed the tone of Hong Kong at the moment is characterised by a high stock exchange and intense land development, and the latter represents the confident mood of much of the community.

I think there are in particular three reasons for this confidence. Firstly the five million people of this small territory can boast a track record of energy, inventiveness and adaptability second to none in the world. They have always lived in a time of change and have shown their ability to meet this challenge in the past and they

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are confident of their ability to do so in the future. And we have a system of Government which is suited to the territory's unique situation and which combines maximum opportunity and reward for energy and inventiveness and an already sound and steadily improving infrastructure which shields the community from the harsher difficulties to which we are otherwise committed. Our currency reserves are strong, we are accustomed to a balanced budget, our governmental debt is minimal. All these things in combination give us a good basis from which to face the future.

The second factor is that Hong Kong's progress has to be sustained not in isolation but in the context of the region. The region is on the move and Hong Kong is moving as part of it. The national growth rate figures for the countries of the Western Pacific have been constantly abnormally high by international standards and have every prospect of remaining so and I sincerely believe that the last two decades of this century are likely to be the era of East and South East Asia. And Hong Kong occupies a position at the centre of the communications of this region and in the closest contact with the vast developments of the People's Republic of China. The third reason is of course

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the greatly improved relations between the United Kingdom and China over Hong Kong and the acceptance of the Chinese Government that Hong Kong has a major part to play in the modernisation of China. This in turn is only one facet of the great change in personalities and policies that have come to pass in China itself and these have greatly increased confidence and hope in the whole East Asian region, not least in both Japan and the countries of ASEAN. But the impact in Hong Kong has been greatest because it is closest and has led to both a renewal of confidence and a rapid influx of firms who rightly see in Hong Kong a platform from which to do business in Hong Kong itself, in China and in this growth area of the Western Pacific and South China Sea.

Our host tonight, the Hong Kong and Shanghai Bank, has of course worldwide interests, interests which have been greatly strengthened by its union with Marine Midland, but its roots are in Hong Kong, it is the Hong Kong Government's banker, and it is a bank of note issue. It also performs as a lender of last resort, some of the functions of a central bank. I am convinced that developments over the last five years have shown that Hong Kong and its banks have a role to play in the long-term future of China, as no doubt it has in the future of clients all over the world. In celebrating its first 100 years in New York, I look forward with confidence to the century to come.